no applications for assistance from Bengal Potteries and Re-Roll Burns is pending with it.

Protest Lodged with Pakistan on Spies Nabbed in India

3219. SHRI JERLIE E. TARIANG: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Pakistan spies nabbed in India during the last one year;

(b) whether any protest was lodged with Pakistan Government Embassy and if so, the particulars thereof;

(c) the details of the response of the Pakistan Authorities in this respect; and

(d) whether Government intend to send any Minister/Senior official level delegation to Pakistan in the near future for solving the disputes; if so, the particulars thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Information for the period from 1-10-1986 to 39-9-1987 is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No such initiative is contemplated in the context of detection of espionage cases.

Distress Scale of Raw Jute

3220 SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what steps Government have taken to prevent large scale distress sale of 'raw jute' during this jute season;

(b) what are the targets for the season (support price purchase and commercial purchase) against the total production, Statewise; and

(c) what is the total quantity of the purchase made by the Jute Corporation of India till date?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) No report about large scale distress sale of raw jute during the current jute session has been received.

(b) No target has been fixed for procurement of raw jute under price support operation and the Jute Corporation of India (JCI) is obliged to procure whatever quantity of raw jute is offered to it for sale by jute growers at the statutory minimum price fixed by the Government.

(c) he JCI alongwith Cooperatives have procured a total quantity of about 3.54 lakh bales of raw jute till 28th November, 1987 in the current jute session.

Amendment of Indian Trade Unions Act

3221. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 405 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 25th August, 1987 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that almost all Central trade unions of the country have expressed their opposition to the proposals made by Government; and

(b) whether Government will have fresh look into the proposals and reframe them in consultation with Central trade unions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) and (b) Consultations on various amendments proposed to be made to the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, and the Trade Unions Act 1926, had been held with the Central trade union organisations in the Standing Labour Committee in September, 1986. As is known, the Standing Labour Committee is a tripartite national forum in which